

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In the Claims: Please amend claims 24 and 28 and add new claim 40:

1-20 (canceled)

21. (withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody reactive with a $\beta(1-3)$ – and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan associated epitope in free form, in cell wall fragments or on an intact cell surface.

22. (withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein said $\beta(1-3)$ – and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan associated epitope is available in cell wall fragments of *C. albicans* and/or *C. neoformans*, or on the cell surface of *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. krusei*, *C. glabrata* and/or *C. neoformans*.

23. (withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 21, wherein said antibody is A10A.

24. (Currently amended) A method for the detection of an invasive fungal infection in a human patient comprising:

(a) assaying mucosal secretions or urine of the patient with a suspected invasive fungal infection with using an assay consisting essentially of using at least one antibody reactive with a fungal $\beta(1-3)$ glucan – epitope and and/or a fungal $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan epitope that is in free form or is available in cell wall fragments of fungi or on the cell surface of fungi; and

(b) evaluating the levels of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans and and/or $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ glucans in the secretions or urine.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a

monoclonal antibody according to claim 21.

28. (Currently amended) A method for detecting the presence of fungi in a human patient suspected of having an invasive fungal infection, comprising performing an assay for the detection of $\beta(1-3)$ glucans in a sample from the patient consisting essentially of using a monoclonal antibody reactive with a *Candida* $\beta(1-3)$ glucan – and and/or a $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan epitope that is in free form, or is available in cell wall fragments of *Candida*.

29. (withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 22, wherein said antibody is A10A.

30-33 (Canceled)

34. (withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 22.

35. (withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 23.

36. (withdrawn) Diagnostic kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a monoclonal antibody according to claim 29.

37-39. (Canceled)

40. (New) A method for the detection of an invasive fungal infection in a human patient comprising:

(a) assaying mucosal secretions or urine of the patient with suspected invasive infection with using an assay consisting essentially of using at least one antibody reactive with a fungal $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ – glucan epitope that is in free form or is available in cell wall fragments of fungi or on the cell surface of fungi and

(b) evaluating the levels of $\beta(1-3)(1-6)$ glucans in the secretions or urine.